

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Gouvernor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

June 17, 1977

As provided under the provisions of Section 14, Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Texas, I disapprove of S.B. 34 and am filing same with the Secretary of State setting forth the following objections:

I disapprove of Senate Bill No. 34, which would prohibit violations of speed limits between 55 and 70 miles per hour from being charged against a driver's record for the purposes of determining availability of or rates for motor vehicle insurance or determining driver's license suspensions. Federal officials charged with monitoring state compliance with the federal 55 mile an hour speed limit have not been able to assure me that federal highway funds will not be lost to the state if Senate Bill No. 34 becomes law. The Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation has indicated to me that as much as \$614 million in federal highway funds over the next two years would be endangered by enactment of any law reducing penalties for violation of the 55 mile an hour limit. In his words, passage of such a law raises "substantial questions" about the state's compliance with the mandatory federal law. Additionally, proponents of the bill have not been able to demonstrate that the declining death rate on Texas highways in recent years is not attributable in large part to the reduced maximum speed limit. The safety of the lives and property of our citizens and the maintenance and improvement of the state's highway system, of which Texans are justifiably proud, make it incumbent on me to protect the state from the probable undesirable consequences of Senate Bill No. 34.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused the seal of the State of Texas to be affixed hereto at Austin, Texas, this 17th day of June, 1977.